

The following is a complete listing of the claims to supercede all previous listing of claims:

1. (Original) Device for closing a container (3; 103; 203) provided with a neck (2; 102; 202), this device comprising:
  - a first portion intended to form a closure element (4; 104),
  - a second, annular portion (5; 105), intended to be maintained around the neck (2; 102), and
  - a third portion which forms a tamper-evident tab (6; 106) linking the first (4; 104) to the second (5; 105) portion, which is connected to these first and second portions (4, 5; 104, 105) by frangible means (8, 9) and which is intended to be removed upon first use in order to release the closure element (4; 104), this device being characterized in that it defines means (14; 114) for storing (F) the tamper-evident tab (6; 106), once this tamper-evident tab has been separated from the first and second portions (4, 5; 104, 105).
2. (Original) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the second portion comprises a wall forming an annular skirt (5; 105), the storage means comprising a passage (14; 114) made through the wall of said skirt (5; 105) and adapted to allow the insertion of the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) in an interior storage space (18; 118; 128) that the skirt (5; 105) and the neck (2; 102) are intended to define between each other.

3. (Original) Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that said passage is formed by a hole (14).

4. (Original) Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that, opposite the closure element (104), the skirt (05) terminates in a free edge (112) which defines a notch (114) forming said passage.

5. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any one of~~ Claim[[s]] 2 [[to 4]], characterized in that, on each side of the tamper-evident tab (6; 106), said frangible means present the form of a continuous line of lesser mechanical resistance (8, 9).

6. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any one of the~~ ~~preceding~~ Claim [[s]] 1, characterized in that a hinge (10) links the closure element (4; 104) to the second portion (5; 105), said frangible means comprising at least one line of lesser mechanical resistance (9), which extends between the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) and the second portion (5; 105), and, diametrically opposite the hinge (10), defines the edge (13) of a notch (20) intended to be defined by said second portion (5; 105) and to uncover a part of the neck (2; 102, 202) after the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) has been removed.

7. (Currently Amended) Container provided with a neck (2; 102; 202), characterized in that it comprises a closure device (1; 101) according to ~~any one of the preceding Claims~~ Claim 1, mounted on the neck (2; 102; 202).

8. (Currently Amended) Container according to Claim 7, characterized in that the closure device (1; 101) ~~is in accordance with any one of Claims 2 to 5,~~ the neck (2; 102; 202) and said skirt (5; 105) defining therebetween an interior storage space (18; 118; 218) to which said passage (14; 114) provides access and in which the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) may be inserted.

9. (Original) Container according to Claim 8, characterized in that at least one of the elements of the group comprising the neck (2; 102; 202) and said skirt (5; 105) of the closure device (1; 101), defines at least one guide (16; 21, 115; 202) for confining the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) in the interior storage space (18; 118; 218).

10. (Original) Container according to Claim 9, characterized in that the confinement guide is an annular projection (16; 21, 115; 222) laterally defining the interior storage space (18; 118; 218).

11. (Currently Amended) Container according to ~~any one of Claim~~  
[[s]] 7 ~~to 10~~, characterized in that the closure device (1, 101)  
is in accordance with Claim 6, and in that, at the level of the  
notch (20), the neck (2; 102; 202) projects more than elsewhere  
from said second portion (5; 105).